

**Testimony before the Legislative Management Committee
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To: Senator Looney, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Committee:

I am honored to appear before you this morning to seek your approval of my nomination for the newly reconfigured State Education Resource Center Board of Directors. SERC provides an invaluable service to educators and the public in Connecticut as experts in the field of early childhood education and special education. SERC provides an array of professional development programs and acts as the States' designee for implementation of IDEA federal legislation on behalf of the State Education Department.

I am excited about the mission and goals of the organization and believe my over 25 years of experience in developing children's public policy and former teaching experience will assist SERC in its statutory mission. In addition my experience as a member on several non-profit boards will help steer the new organizational structure of SERC as it begins its life as a quasi-public agency.

As both a current member of the Waterbury Board of Education and Co-chair of the Waterbury School Readiness Council, I believe I can bring a unique perspective on the needs of teachers and how to leverage the expertise of SERC to strengthen and build a successful program.

I am very grateful to Governor Malloy for this opportunity to serve on the Board of SERC and hope you will approve my appointment. I look forward to continuing the excellent work of SERC on behalf of children in Connecticut.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify today.